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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school resource officers and school safety officers; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; requiring, rather than authorizing, school districts to establish school resource officer programs; providing requirements for the assignment of officers; specifying that auxiliary law enforcement officers may serve as school resource officers and school safety officers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.12 School resource officers and school safety officers.—

- (1) District school boards <u>shall</u> <u>may</u> establish school resource officer programs, through a cooperative agreement with law enforcement agencies or in accordance with subsection (2). At least one school resource officer or school safety officer shall be assigned to each public school campus. At least one school resource officer or school safety officer shall be present at each public school campus from one-half hour before the first class is scheduled to begin until one-half hour after the last class ends.
 - (a) School resource officers shall be certified law

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enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), or auxiliary law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(8), who are employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law enforcement officer or an auxiliary law enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's tenure as a school resource officer.

- (b) School resource officers shall abide by district school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate activities through the school principal, but shall be responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters relating to employment, subject to agreements between a district school board and a law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by the school resource officer which are part of the regular instructional program of the school shall be under the direction of the school principal.
- (2) (a) School safety officers shall be law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), or auxiliary law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(8), who are certified under the provisions of chapter 943 and employed by either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board. If the officer is employed by the district school board, the district school board is the employing agency for purposes of chapter 943, and must comply with the provisions of that chapter.
- (b) A district school board may commission one or more school safety officers for the protection and safety of school

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personnel, property, and students within the school district. The district school superintendent may recommend and the district school board may appoint one or more school safety officers.

- (c) A school safety officer has and shall exercise the power to make arrests for violations of law on district school board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. A school safety officer has the authority to carry weapons when performing his or her official duties.
- (d) A district school board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement agency, as mutually agreed to.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.